

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DOHA 00910 261241Z

73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-07 COME-00 MC-02 /052 W

----- 085002

R 261135Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0726

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CONFIDENTIAL DOHA 0910

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS MARR QA US

SUBJ: REPORTED NORTHROP EFFORTS TO SELL F-5 IN QATAR

REF: A) DOHA 0536; B) DOHA 9698; C) STATE 164134; D) DOHA

0897 (ALL NOTAL)

1. JIM HOAGLAND ARTICLE ON US ARMS SALES IN MID EAST, WHICH CARRIED IN JULY 21 "INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE" (JUST RECEIVED HERE), REPORTED, INTER ALIA, ALLEGED NORTHROP EFFORTS TO SELL F-5S TO QATARI ARMED FORCES.

2. REFTELS COVER EMBASSY'S REPORTING AND DEPT VIEWS ON POSSIBLE INTEREST OF GOQ IN F-5S. AS REPORTED, NORTHROP'S LEBANESE "CONSULTANT", FARID RIZK, WHO VISITS DOHA PERIODICALLY, MENTIONED SUBJECT TO AMBASSADOR; NORTHROP REP TOUCHED BASE WITH EMBASSY ON JUNE 7; AND AMIR HAS ASKED AMBASSADOR NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ABOUT F-5.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT IF ANYONE IS PUSHING F-5 HERE, IT IS PROBABLY RIZK, WHO HAS GOOD ACCESS TO HIGHER ECHELONS OF GOQ. IN ADDITION, IT APPEARS THAT SOME QATARI STUDENT PILOTS

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ARE RECEIVING FLIGHT TRAINING ON F-5S IN SAUDI ARABIA. DURING

JULY 23 CONVERSATION ON GOQ ARMS PROCUREMENT (REF D), DEPUTY
COMMANDER OF QATARI ARMED FORCES, BRIGADIER ATTIAH, TOLD
AMBASSADOR THAT QATARI STUDENT PILOTS ARE BEING TRAINED IN
SAUDI ARABIA ON ALL AIRCRAFT IN SAUDI INVENTORY, AND HE
SPECIFIED LIGHTNINGS, MIRAGES, AND F-5S. ATTIAH INDICATED
THAT GOQ MIGHT BE IN MARKET FOR AIRCRAFT TO REPLACE ITS
PRESENT HAWKER HUNTERS, BUT IT WAS CLEAR THAT QATARIS TAKING
THEIR USUAL GO-SLOW APPROACH ON AIRCRAFT AS WELL AS OTHER
ARMS PROCUREMENT.
PAGANELLI

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Message Attributes

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